

COUNTRY

REPORT

TOPIC

Military Information from the Uranium Mining Area

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONT

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PREPARED 30 March 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 7 February 1953, the barracks installation south of Frohnau, immediately west of Annaberg, was occupied by about 900 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, about 90 officers, and a penal unit of about 100 men. On 31 January, about 400 troops armed with rifles and equipped with gasmasks, and 10 dogs were seen in an infantry combat practice, about 1.5 km south of the installation. They returned to the installation at about 11:30 a.m. On 2 February, about 150 troops were drilling in the barracks area. <sup>1</sup>

2. On 7 February, the former Mehnert Factory on Parkstrasse, just south of the upper railroad station, Annaberg, was occupied by about 900 troops. On 31 January, about 800 troops, which had come from the installation, were lined up at Stalinplatz. On 4 February, about 150 troops armed with rifles and carrying spades and rolled blankets were seen in a simulated attack against dummy soldiers, dummy tanks and two simulated AT gun emplacements, in the vicinity of the installation. On 28 and 29 January, the unit had moved from the former boys' school to the former Mehnert Factory on trucks. <sup>2</sup>

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3. The unit previously stationed in the former boys' school northeast of Voigt Strasse, Annaberg, had moved to the former Mehnert Factory on 28 and 29 January. On 7 February, the boys' school was occupied by a rear detail of about 50 to 60 soldiers and by 4 dogs. On 5 February, three soldiers dismantled the antennas on the roof of the installation, and 11 trucks and 2 sedans were seen in the barracks area. <sup>2</sup>

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4. On 7 February, the barracks installation on either side of Leninstrasse, Annaberg, was occupied by a guard detail of 6 soldiers. <sup>3</sup>

5. On 4 February, about 30 soldiers practiced firing with rifles at the firing range in the quarry.

6. On 20 February, the barracks installation in Breitenbrunn near

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Schwarzenberg was occupied by about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The occupation of this installation, which was also referred to as "Battalion Breitenbrunn" was employed exclusively in guard duty at the shafts.

7. On 20 February, the former Farina Factory in Baierfeld, north of Schwarzenberg, was occupied by about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The personnel stationed in this installation near the large garage, which was also referred to as Battalion Baierfeld, were employed exclusively in guard duty at shafts.
8. On 20 February, the barracks installation south of Raschau, on the road to Pochla, was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The troops were also employed in guard duty at the shafts.<sup>4</sup>
9. On 14 February, the installation on the Oberschlema-Aue road was occupied by about 200 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and by about 20 dogs. The installation was fully lighted at dusk. On 10 and 11 February, about 100 troops were seen drilling and/or entering and leaving the installation with rifles, practice targets and 7 dogs.<sup>5</sup>
10. On 14 February, the installation in Wildbach near Oberschlema was occupied by about 150 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 75 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted after nightfall. On 13 February, about 18 soldiers were engaged in a field exercise in the area north of the installation.<sup>6</sup>
11. On 5 February, the installation near the post office, west of the Niederschlema-Schneeberg road was occupied by about 180 to 200 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, and by 8 dogs. Two trucks were seen in a garage. On 30 January, a guard detail of 40 soldiers left the installation.<sup>7</sup>
12. On 5 February, the barracks installation west of the Niederschlema-Aue railroad line was occupied by about 180 to 250 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and about 60 to 80 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. The installation included a pigeon loft with about 20 homing pigeons. The troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were employed in testing ore and as workers in the Bruendlersberg ore mill, and the troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets furnished the guard personnel for the shafts of the Wismut Corporation. At 4 p.m. on 5 February, about 54 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets armed with rifles and carrying three practice targets entered the installation; and at about 4:30 p.m., 18 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were drilling in front of the quarters on the hill. Four trucks, [redacted] were seen in the barracks area.<sup>8</sup>
13. On 5 February, the installation on the Niederschlema-Aue road was occupied by about 220 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets who were employed in guard duty at the shafts of the Wismut Corporation.<sup>6</sup>

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14. On 5 February, the installation on the hill was occupied by about 120 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. All barracks buildings were lighted at dusk. The troops quartered in the installation were employed in guard duty with the Wismut Corporation. Truck [ ] left the installation.

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15. On 12 February, the barracks installation on Lenin Strasse, Annaberg, was vacant. The wooden fence which previously surrounded the installation had been dismantled.<sup>3</sup>

16. On 12 February, the former boys' school, northeast of Voigt Strasse on Michaelis Stollen, was occupied by only about 200 troops. About 35 percent of the windows of the barracks buildings were lighted after nightfall. Trucks [ ] were seen in the yard of the installation. <sup>2</sup>

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17. On 12 February, the former Mehnert Factory on Parkstrasse, immediately south of the upper railroad station, was occupied by about 500 troops. About 35 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted at dusk. On 11 and 12 February, about 200 troops entered and left the installation on trucks, and about 50 soldiers were not engaged in any duty. Motor vehicles seen en route from and to the installation [ ] <sup>2</sup>

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18. On 12 February, the installation between Voigt Strasse and Kleinrueckerswalder Strasse was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport, artillery, construction engineer, medical corps and signal insignia. On 11 and 12 February, about 800 troops entered and left the installation on trucks and buses and/or in groups of up to 40 men by foot; and 150 troops were not engaged in any duty. Truck [ ] was seen en route to the installation. <sup>6</sup>

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19. On 12 February, sentries wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets guarded the installation on Jungfernstieg, north of the upper railroad station. About 50 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted after nightfall. On 11 and 12 February, about 150 troops entered and left the installation. <sup>6</sup>

20. On 19 February, the barracks installation near Shaft No 60, southwest of Eibenstocker Strasse, Johanngeorgenstadt, was partially occupied by about 500 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 40 percent of the windows of the barracks buildings were lighted after nightfall. On 4 and 19 February, about 150 soldiers left the installation toward Eibenstock and the town to relieve the guards. <sup>6</sup>

21. On 19 February, the barracks installation west of the townhall was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. All barracks buildings were fully lighted after nightfall. From 4 to 19 February, about 700 troops were daily seen engaged in training and routine duties and about 250 troops were not engaged in any duty. <sup>6</sup>

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22. On 19 February, the former Box furniture factory at the intersection of Linden Strasse and Karl Marx Strasse was partially occupied by about 250 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. From 4 to 19 February, about 100 troops were daily seen engaged in training and about 30 troops were not engaged in any duty. About 50 percent of the windows of the barracks buildings were lighted after nightfall. Motor vehicles seen en route to the three last mentioned installations

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23. On 19 February, the former Wendler Factory on the extension of Linden Strasse was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport, artillery, construction engineer, medical corps and signal insignia. About 800 troops were seen engaged in training and about 250 troops were not engaged in any duty. About 50 officers, including 11 field grade officers were seen. The quarters were fully lighted after nightfall. In addition to motor vehicles

trucks were seen en route to the installation. 6

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24. On 21 February, Restricted Area I in the factory area northeast of the lower railroad station, Auerbach, was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport, artillery, construction engineer, medical corps and signal insignia. About 700 troops were seen engaged in training and about 200 troops were not engaged in any duty. The barracks buildings were fully lighted at dusk. In addition to motor vehicles trucks were seen en route to the restricted area. 6

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25. On 21 February, Restricted Area II on the eastern edge of Auerbach, south of the road to Bruenn, was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 800 troops were seen engaged in training and about 250 troops were not engaged in any duty. Several groups of 40 soldiers armed with rifles, submachine guns and light and heavy machine guns left the restricted area for firing practice. The barracks buildings were fully lighted at dusk. Motor vehicles seen en route from and to the restricted area

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26. On 16 February, the Kleine Kaserne, southwest of the Aue-Schneeberg road, Aue, was occupied by about 2,000 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. All barracks buildings were fully lighted after nightfall. About 1,000 troops were seen engaged in training activity and about 300 troops were not engaged in any duty.<sup>5</sup>
27. On 16 February, one sentry wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets was at each of the two entrances of Hochhaus on the Aue-Schneeberg road, 100 meters southeast of Kleine Kaserne. About 300 troops wearing black-bordered crimson or red-bordered black epaulets were seen in the barracks yard. About 60 to 80 officers, including 19 fieldgrade officers, were seen entering and leaving the installation. All quarters were fully lighted after nightfall. Motor vehicles seen en route to the two last mentioned installations

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28. On 16 February, the Neue Kaserne, south of the Aue-Schwarzenberg railroad line, between Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse and the railroad line, on the east edge of Aue, was partially occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some wearing motor transport, artillery, construction engineer, medical corps and signal insignia. About 650 troops were engaged in training activities. About 80 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted at dusk. Truck [ ] was seen en route to the installation.<sup>6</sup>
29. On 16 February, the former Kutscher Factory, north of the Schwarzenberg railroad station, was occupied to capacity by about 1,500 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. The barracks buildings were fully lighted after nightfall. About 900 troops were seen engaged in training and routine duties and about 100 troops were not engaged in any duty. Motor vehicles seen en route from and to the installation

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1. [ ] Comment. [ ] This information indicates that the number of MVD troops stationed there had increased by 300 men since February 1952. [ ]
2. [ ] Comment. [ ] the previous occupation of the Mehnert Factory, i.e. the bulk of an MVD regiment, was [ ] transferred to Cheanitz in November 1952. [ ]

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6. Comment. The occupation of these installations has not changed since 1952.

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7. Comment.

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8. Comment. Homing pigeons were observed in this installation

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